

What is claimed is:

1.

A rake attachment for a large baler comprising:
a frame member having a front end and a rear end;
the front including a connection member capable of connection
between a motive means and a rake member;
the rear end including a connection member capable of connection
between the rake member and a large baler; and
a rake member extending transversely from the frame member.

2.

The rake attachment of claim 1 wherein the frame member
includes a passage between front and rear for a PTO shaft.

3.

The rake attachment of claim 2 wherein the frame includes
bearing members along the passage.

4.

The rake attachment of claim 1 wherein the connection member
on the front of the frame comprises a hitch.

5.

The rake attachment of claim 4 wherein the connection member
on the front comprises a hitch from a large bale baler.

6.

The rake attachment of claim 1 wherein the connection member
on the rear comprises frame pieces and bolts.

7.

The rake attachment of claim 6 wherein the connection member on the rear comprises frame pieces which match up with a large bale baler hitch connection.

8.

The rake attachment of claim 1 wherein the rake comprises a rake wheel rotatably mounted on an arm attached to the frame member.

9.

The rake attachment of claim 8 wherein the arm member extends forwardly at an angle from the frame.

10.

The rake attachment of claim 9 wherein the angle is in the range of 20° to 60° .

11.

The rake attachment of claim 10 wherein the angle is in the range of 35° to 50° .

12.

The rake attachment of claim 11 wherein the angle is approximately 45° .

13.

The rake attachment of claim 9 further comprising first and second arms extending from opposite sides of the frame.

14.

The rake attachment of claim 13 comprising a plurality of rake wheels on each arm.

15.

The rake attachment of claim 14 wherein the wheels are spaced apart but overlapped.

16.

The rake attachment of claim 1 further comprising in combination a large bale baler having a pick-up width, wherein the raking width is greater than the pick-up width.

17.

The rake attachment of claim 16 wherein the raking width is substantially greater than the pick-up width.

18.

The rake attachment of claim 1 wherein the rake member comprises two arms extending out and forwardly from the frame and a plurality of rake wheels on each arm having planes of rotations generally aligned with the arms.

19.

The rake attachment of claim 18 wherein the rake wheels are spaced apart but overlapping.

20.

The rake attachment of claim 1 further comprising connections between each arm and the frame to raise and lower a rake means.

21.

The rake attachment of claim 1 further comprising adjustable mounting means for the rake wheels to the arms for adjustability in width of the rake means and vertical height of the rake means.

22.

The rake attachment of claim 1 further comprising a pivot means between the frame and the rake wheels to allow the rake wheels to maintain contact with the terrain over variations in the train.

23.

The rake attachment of claim 8 wherein the arm includes a section that can pivot over a range around a pivot pin, a rake wheel being attached on either side of the pivot pin.

24.

The rake attachment of claim 1 further comprising in combination a baler, the baler attached to the connection member at the rear of the frame work; the baler having a pick-up width which is less than the width between rake wheels.

25.

In combination a large bale baler and a rake member comprising:

a large bale baler having an intake with and a connection member;
a hitch adaptable for connection to a tractor;
an intermediate framework attachable between the hitch and the connection on the large bale baler;

at least one arm attached at one end to the intermediate framework and extending from the framework;
at least one raking member attached to the arm and transversely wider than the intake width of the baler.

26.

The combination of claim 25 further comprising an implement connected between the rake member and the baler and/or between the tractor and the rake member.

27.

The combination of claim 26 wherein the implement is a shredder.

28.

The combination of claim 25 further comprising a tractor which is operatively connected in front of the rake member and baler.

29.

A method of baling comprising:
in a single pass through a field, baling material through a pick-up width of a baler; while at the same time raking, from behind a motive means, material from substantially wider than the pick-up width of the baler.

30.

The method of claim 29 wherein substantially wider means is at least 50% wider than the pickup width.